VIA: EMAIL

# Rosamond Community Charter Elementary School April 11, 2014

Julie Russell, Director
Charter Schools Division
California Department of Education
1430 N Street, Suite 5401
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Description of Changes to the Charter Petition Necessary to Reflect the State Board of Education as the Authorizing Entity

#### Dear Director Russell:

The Rosamond Community Charter Elementary School ("Charter School") charter petition was denied by the governing board of the Southern Kern Unified School District ("District") on 12-11- 2014. The charter was appealed to the Kern County Board of Education and denied on 2-11-2014.

Rosamond Community Charter Elementary (RCCES) respectfully submits its charter petition on appeal to the State Board of Education ("SBE"). In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 11967(b)(4), we have listed below the relevant and appropriate changes to the charter petition that are necessary to reflect approval.

## 1. Change to Opening Date; the first day of school

Upon approval, Rosamond Community Charter Elementary would like to change the opening date from September 6, 2014 to September 5, 2015. Reason: There are a few issues that may hinder RCCES from successfully opening.

- a. RCCES has completed the Start-Up funding process of Round 2 but for a "Community Involvement" rewrite portion, which will require resubmission, approval and issuance of funding.
- b. Additionally, Rosamond is a rural town and RCCES applied for Prop 39 with the local district (SKUSD), and was denied by (SKUSD) for a vacant elementary school (Hamilton Elementary School); vacant since 2008. The elementary school would support our kids and educational plan. RCCES will have to reapply to only vacant facility in Rosamond.

Note: The RCCES budget reflects Prop 39 facility, Start-up Funding, and educational planning. Upon approval, RCCES will provide any budget changes required by the SBE in a timely manner.

### 2. Chartering Authority

Any text referring to the "Southern Kern Unified School District," "SKUSD," or the "District" as the chartering authority would be revised to read "State Board of Education ("SBE")," or the "California Department of Education ("CDE")," where appropriate, as the oversight agency.

**3. Petition Element 1: Plan for Serving Students with Disabilities** RCCES will be its own local educational agency ("LEA") for purposes of special education. RCCES has already applied to El Dorado SELPA and is pending approval; should RCCES be denied the Kern County Special Education Local Plan Area. The charter would be amended to reflect the applicable arrangement. Additionally, EL Dorado is reviewing our petition, application and budget and has given suggestion to magistrate the whole body of our special education. RCCES is hopefully awaiting an approval.

## 4. Petition Element 12: Dispute Resolution

The Dispute Resolution language in the charter petition will be followed by the paragraph below:

"The Charter School recognizes that, because the SBE is not a local educational agency, the SBE may choose to resolve a dispute directly instead of pursuing the dispute resolution process specified in the charter, it must first hold a public hearing to consider arguments for and against the direct resolution of the dispute instead of pursuing the dispute resolution process specified in the charter."

#### **5. Technical Amendments**

The Charter School agrees to incorporate into its charter any technical amendments deemed necessary and appropriate by the California Department of Education and/or State Board of Education.

RCCES will make every effort to submit any supplemental documentation that the California Department of Education or State Board of Education may request in a timely manner.

Sincerely, Kim Oliver,

Lead Petitioner for Rosamond Community Charter Elementary School

cc. LAW OFFICES OF YOUNG, MINNEY & CORR, LLP LISA A. CORR, ATTORNEY AT LAW